

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-02 EB-11 FAA-00 DOTE-00 IO-14

SCS-03 SCA-01 M-02 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /130 W

----- 069116

R 190249Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8809

UNCLAS SAIGON 12159

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, EAIR, VS

SUBJECT: CRASH AND ATTEMPTED HIJACKING OF AIR VIETNAM 727 AIRCRAFT

REF: SAIGON 12060 AND 10 FAM 521.6

DCA HAS RECEIVED MORE ACCURATE INFORMATION ON SUBJECT CRASH
AND ATTEMPTED HIJACKING. INFORMATION IN REFTEL SHOULD BE
AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

PARAGRAPH F. 8 CREW MEMBERS AND 65 PASSENGERS DIED
IN CRASH.
5 CHILDREN UNDER 2 WERE NOT INCLUDED IN
MANIFEST OF 60 PASSENGERS.

PARAGRAPH G SHOULD BE AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

"SHORTLY AFTER LEAVING DANANG AIRCRAFT WAS
ORDERED BY HIJACKER DRESSED IN ARMY UNIFORM WITH
RANK OF MAJOR TO PROCEED TO HANOI. HE THREATENED
TO BLOW UP AIRCRAFT WITH TWO HAND GRENADES. PILOT
REFUSED TO COMPLY AND FLEW SOUTHEASTERLY DIRECTION TO
BAN ME THUOT, THEN EASTWARD TO PHAN THIET, AND
FINALLY TOWARD PHAN RANG. APPROACHING PHAN RANG
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MILITARY AIRFIELD, AIRCRAFT TURNED NORMALLY TO BASE LEG TO INTER-

CEPT CENTER LINE OF RUNWAY BUT OVERSHOT LINE BY 2,000
FEET. AIRCRAFT WAS INITIATING LEFT TURN WHEN CONTROL
WAS LOST. IT BANKED TO RIGHT AND PITCHED AT A DOWNWARD
ANGLE OF 30-40 DRGREES AND IMPACTED INTO THE GROUND
900 METERS BEFORE THRESHOLD OF RUNWAY. AIRCRAFT
DISINTEGRATED INTO SMALL PIECES. AIRCRAFT WAS IN RADIO
CONTACT WITH ACC SAIGON, WHICH NOTIFIED PHAN RANG
AIRPORT ABOUT EXPECTED LANDING OF AIRCRAFT. DCA STILL
UNCERTAIN WHETHER HIJACKER EXPLODED HAND GRENADES
BEFORE CRASH."
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS, CASUALTIES
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Draft Date: 19 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005